



OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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Linda McCulloch
Superintendent

August 14, 2007

TO: Test Coordinators, Special Education Directors and Coops, Special Education Teachers, Authorized Representatives, and Principals
FROM: Judy Snow, State Assessment Director
RE: Science CRT-Alternate Beta Test

The Science CRT-Alternate has been developed for students with significant cognitive disabilities in Grades 4, 8, and 10. We need to Beta test this version of the test to identify any implementation issues before it is introduced statewide in the Spring. The Beta version of the test needs to be administered by a teacher to an appropriate student, a student whose IEP indicates that s/he is a candidate for the CRT-Alternate.

While the test is for students in grades 4, 8, and 10, the Beta test is scheduled so early into the school year that it could be administered to students in grades 5, 9, and 11 (last year's 4th, 8th, and 10th graders). This would enable teachers who already administered the CRT-Alternate in Reading and Math to students in grades 4, 8, and 10 in the spring of 2007 to work with the same students. We are also open to including teachers of students who are just beginning 4th, 8th, and 10th grade this fall.

As part of the beta test, the Office of Public Instruction, Gail McGregor from the University of Montana, and Measured Progress will conduct a day of training in Helena.

September 18, 2007 is the training.

September 19 - October 9, 2007 is the field test administration window.

Mileage, lodging, meals, substitute reimbursement, and renewal credits are provided for the day of training.

We need many teachers to participate and help with this, the final and very important development stage, of the Science CRT-Alternate which will be administered in the spring of 2008.

Please contact Judy Snow or Karen Richem with any questions. We will be happy to register you and make arrangements for you.

jsnow@mt.gov or 406-444-3656

krichem@mt.gov or 406-444-0748

If you prefer, there are two other ways to register:

1. A participation form is online. Please fax it to the number on the form, and indicate on the form that you are interested in participating in the Beta test.

The link to the form is

<http://www.opi.mt.gov/PDF/Assessment/Forms/06AppParticipate.pdf>

2. Or, you may register online with Measured Progress.

<http://iregister.measuredprogress.org/> <<http://iregister.measuredprogress.org/>>

Thank your help. We hope to hear from many of you soon.

"It is the mission of the Office of Public Instruction to improve teaching and learning through communication, collaboration, advocacy, and accountability to those we serve."